



# HIKING – FOREST SERVICE – ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL FOREST – San Juan RANGER DISTRICT - Columbine  
Updated: February, 2003



## CLEAR CREEK TRAIL #550

Length: 6 miles (9.7 km.)

Use: Medium

Difficulty: More difficult

USGS Map (s): Monument Hill

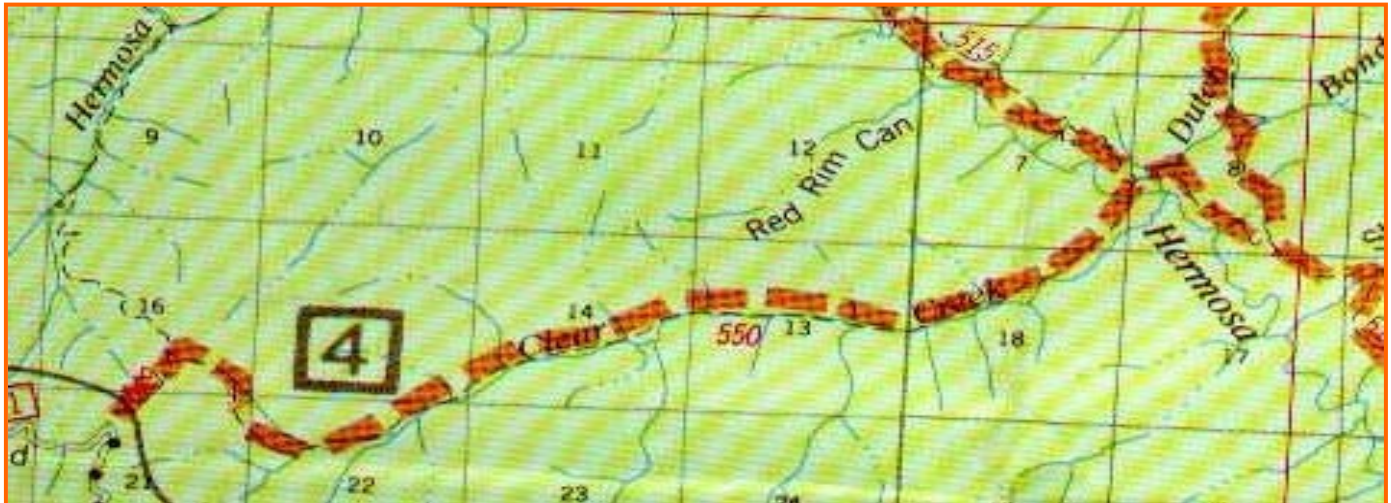
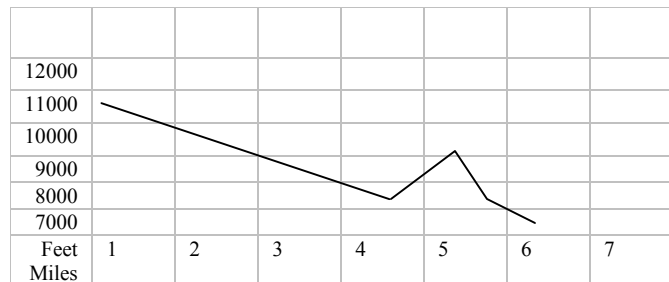
Starting Elevation: 10,200'  
Junction Creek Road

Ending Elevation: 7,400'  
Hermosa Creek Trail

Recommended Season: Summer/Fall

### Recommended Season

Spring Summer Fall Winter



Access #1: Heading north on Main Street in Durango, turn left (west) on 25<sup>th</sup> street until it turns into Junction Creek Road (FDR #171). Follow this road for approximately 22 miles. Trailhead is on the north side of the road.

*Scan of the San Juan National Forest Map*  
Forest Service Maps and other publications available at the Public Lands Center in the Durango Tech Center, ½ mile west of Durango off of Highway 160 or by calling 970-247-4874.  
[www.sjma.org](http://www.sjma.org)

Access #2: Up Hermosa Creek Trail about 5 miles.

### Attractions & Considerations:

Dropping 2,800 feet from Junction Creek Road with very little uphill in between, this trail is all downhill! Basically it runs next to the creek, so there is ample water—although it should always be filtered, to avoid Giardia. Fishing is also a possibility. There are several camp spots along the way, especially near the bottom of the trail. There are bears in this area, so caution should be used. There is no bridge crossing Hermosa Creek.



Fishing Considerations: Clear Creek and Hermosa Creek are rated fair for cutthroat and rainbow.